

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 /072 W
-----067251 171830Z /43
R 171359Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5286

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4985

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PINS ET
SUBJECT: ARMING OF ADDIS ABABA KEBELES CONTINUES APACE

1. AUGUST 17 ETHIOPIAN HERALD REPORTED CEREMONY AT GRAND PALACE IN WHICH 1,950 REVOLUTIONARY DEFENSE SQUAD MEMBERS FROM 130 ADDIS ABABA URBAN DWELLERS' ASSOCIATIONS (KEBELES) WERE GIVEN ARMS. AS IN PAST, PMAC MEMBER MASTER-SERGEANT LEGESSE ASFAW MADE PRESENTATIONS AND DELIVERED SPEECH. LEGESSE TOLD DEFENSE SQUAD MEMBERS ARMS WOULD ENABLE THEM TO DEFEND GAINS OF REVOLUTION, CRUSH COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS, PROTECT PUBLIC PROPERTY, AND MAINTAIN PEACE, SECURITY AND ORDER. HE ADDED ARMING OF BROAD MASSES WOULD CONTINUE. (THIS CONSISTENT WITH ASSERTIONS BY RELIABLE SOURCE THAT PMAC INTENDS TO ARM 50-60 PERSONS IN EACH OF ADDIS ABABA'S NEARLY THREE HUNDRED KEBELES.) ALTHOUGH FREQUENCY OF URBAN ASSASSINATIONS HAD DECLINED RECENTLY, PREVIOUS DAY'S PAPER ANNOUNCED ASSASSINATIONS OF POLICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR, ANOTHER KEBELE CHAIRMAN, AND DEFENSE SQUAD MEMBER.

2. COMMENT: DESPITE INVASION OF OGADEN, WHICH COULD HAVE POTENTIAL OF UNIFYING COUNTRY, PROMINENT PUBLIC CEREMONY ARMING MORE KEBELE MEMBERS CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF CONTINUING PMAC CONCERN OVER ANTI-GOVERNMENT
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URBAN TERRORISTS' ACTIVITIES. IT NOT EXPECTED ANY OF NEWLY ARMED KEBELE MEMBERS WILL BE MOBILIZED FOR DEFENSE CAMPAIGN. HOWEVER, RECRUITMENT OF URBAN DWELLERS FOR CAMPAIGN IS BEING IMPLEMENTED CONCURRENTLY THROUGH KEBELES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, MILITARY CEREMONIES, RESERVE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770297-0253
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770855/aaaabubs.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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